

Boxborough Energy Committee March 2016 Minutes

Date/Location: Wednesday, March 10, 2016, Town Hall, 7:00-8:30 PM

Attending: Members: Francie Nolde, Margo Webber, Abby Reip

BOS Representative: None

Guests: Gerry Noel, Boxborough Facility Manager

Members Absent: Les Fox, BoS Representative, Santiago Tapia-Perez, Larry Grossman, Richard Garrison, Keshava Srivastava

Next Meeting: Wednesday April 13, 2016

Minutes

- Gerry Noel, the new Boxborough building inspector, came to the meeting to introduce himself and meet our members. Gerry has already implemented some energy saving measures by reversing the direction of the fans in the Town Hall bathrooms. The fans now blow air out rather than blow cold air in. There is a Town Meeting warrant for a new energy efficient air conditioner for Town Hall.
- Gerry told the group that as of August 2016 there will be a new IEE energy code going into effect. This has some new language on insulation requirements. This code is stricter than the stretch code and any new construction, renovations, or home additions will need to meet these code requirements. So there is no need to make a statement to the town about adopting the Stretch Code.
- Gerry said the Town Hall got three new furnaces last year to replace outdated ones.
- The Library is getting a quote for new LED lights. Any quotes and numbers will likely be included in next year's Town Meeting Warrant unless the Library Trustees find money in this upcoming year's budget. LELD will upgrade our street lights at an undetermined time but within the year.
- Francie was working on a "Sense of the Meeting" document to be read at Town meeting. This will not ask for money, but will inform the public that since the Town cannot become an officially designated green community, because we're served by a municipal light plant, we all should get behind a set of goals and requirements that reflect a green community.
- Gerry will provide Margo and Francie on square footage of buildings and year built so that they can be entered into a spread sheet. This spreadsheet is being filled out for MAPC who is forming a consortium of towns to hire an ESCO (Energy Services Company) to provide solar installations.
- If MAPC successfully creates this consortium, Francie suggests we explore the possibility of installing a Solar Farm on the Hager Land behind the library, which would need about 4-5 acres. Trees will need to be taken down, but this system would be on town-owned land, face south, and provide electricity for all our town buildings (except the school).
- CPA money cannot go toward energy-efficient upgrades in historical buildings. A portion of CPA money may be used for restoration.
- LELD will be providing a \$25,000 grant to be split between Littleton and Boxborough. This grant money could go toward installing energy efficient lights in the Grange. Or other lighting projects.
- Finally, the group briefly discussed PAYT. Francie said that last year there were 744 stickers handed out, of which 218 were free to seniors.